

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

DAVE FELLERS, CAE, *Executive Director*
5550 Meadowbrook Drive
Rolling Meadows, IL 60068
Phone: 888-566-AANS
Fax: 847-378-0600
info@aans.org

President
STEWART B. DUNSKER, MD
Mayfield Clinic
Cincinnati, Ohio



American
Association of
Neurological
Surgeons



CONGRESS OF
NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

LAURIE BEHNKE, *Executive Director*
475 South Frontage Road, Suite 101
Burr Ridge, IL 60521-6282
Phone: 877-517-1CNS
Fax: 630-323-6969
info@1CNS.org

President
ISSAM A. AWAD, MD
Yale University School of Medicine
New Haven, Connecticut

November 11, 2000

Stuart L. Nightingale, M.D.
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington DC 20101

**RE: Human Subject Protection and Financial Conflict of Interest
Federal Register [65 FR 41073 – 41076]**

Dear Dr. Nightingale:

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), representing over 4,500 practicing neurosurgeons in the United States, wish to endorse the comments of the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) regarding conflicts of interest and human research subjects. We believe this is an important component of research and deserves the careful attention of all stakeholders, and we commend you for raising the important questions set forth in the notice. It is important to take into consideration the obligation to patients to ensure that they are informed of issues relating to their treatment, while ensuring that the investigators and the research institutions are not hindered in their efforts to cure diseases.

On behalf of all neurosurgeons and the patients we serve, thank you for consideration of this important topic. If you need further information or clarification on this issue, please feel free to contact Lori Shoaf, Senior Washington Associate at (202) 628-2072 or lshoaf@neurosurgery.org.

Sincerely,

Stewart B. Dunsker, M.D.
President
American Association of Neurological Surgeons

Issam A. Awad, M.D.
President
Congress of Neurological Surgeons

WASHINGTON OFFICE

Katie O. Orrico, Director
725 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: 202-628-2072
Fax: 202-628-5264
E-mail: korricoo@neurosurgery.org